

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 01790 131159Z

53

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 NEA-09 EUR-12

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /087 W

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R 131005Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2890

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

USMISSION GENEVA

SECDEF

CINCPAC

CDR JCRC CP SAMAE SAN THAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1790

D/PW FOR HENDERSON

GENEVA FOR SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CASC, LA

SUBJECT: MILITARY ATTACHE TRIP TO JCRC

REF: VIENTIANE 6443

1. IN REFTEL (PARA C) WE DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS THE DESIRABILITY OF UNDERSTANDING TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF RECOVERY OF MIA/BNR AND OUTLINED SOME PLANNED ACTIONS TO PROMOTE SUCH UNDERSTANDING. SUBSEQUENTLY WE ADDED THIRD-COUNTRY MILITARY ATTACHES BASED IN VIENTIANE TO LIST OF PERSONS TO BRIEF IN ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE INDIRECTLY PATHET LAO ATTITUDES TOWARD MIA/BNR QUESTION.

2. INITIAL ATTACHE BRIEFING WAS CONDUCTED MARCH 5 AT SAMAE SAN, THAILAND. THIRD-COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS WERE BRIGADIER GENERAL R. S. PATHANIA (INDIAN DELEGATE, ICC),  
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 01790 131159Z

COLONEL JOHN CROSS AND MAJOR PETER SHIELD (U.K. MILITARY

ATTACHE AND ASSISTANT, RESPECTIVELY), AND COLONEL COLIN KAHN (AUSTRALIAN MILITARY ATTACHE). PROGRAM INCLUDED OVERVIEW BRIEFING BY COMMANDER JCRC; BRIEFING AND TOUR OF CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY FACILITIES (CIL); AND BRIEFING AND DEMONSTRATION OF CASUALTY DATA DIVISION PROCEDURES AND CAPABILITIES. VISITORS WERE IMPRESSED WITH JCRC TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND PARTICULARLY WITH CIL PERSONNEL AND CAPABILITIES. BRIGADIER GENERAL PATHANIA WAS VISIBLY MOVED BY CONCERN SHOWN FOR REMAINS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS OF DECEASED. HE HAD WORKED ON PAKISTANI/INDIAN PW EXCHANGE AND RELATED MATTERS AND OBVIOUSLY ASSOCIATED THE TWO EXPERIENCES. ATTACHES AND ICC DELEGATE HAVE ACCESS TO PATHET LAO PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY JCCIA DELEGATION, AND WE BELIEVE THEY WILL MAKE KNOWN TO PATHET LAO THEIR EXPOSURE TO AND EVALUATION OF JCRC EFFORTS.

3. CONSIDERING APPARENT EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS INITIAL VISIT, WE THINK OTHERS WOULD BE WORTHWHILE AND COULD HELP GET ACROSS THE ESSENTIALLY HUMANITARIAN AND APOLITICAL CHARACTER OF JCRC MISSION. WE WOULD THEREFORE PROPOSE SIMILAR TOURS AND BRIEFINGS FOR FRENCH, SOUTH VIETNAMESE, THAI, CAMBODIAN AND PHILIPPINE ATTACHES. WE ARE ALSO CONSIDERING THE RELATIVE MERITS OF INVITING ATTACHES FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, NOTABLY FROM THE USSR AND POLAND. BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH LATTER, WE SHALL OF COURSE CHECK WITH EMBASSY BANGKOK.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** MOPS, CASC, LA  
**To:** STATE  
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